

Amendments to the Claims

1 Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of programmatically determining whether application
2 program components are suited for deployment at an edge of a computing network, comprising
3 steps of:

4 retrieving a P-element vector V(P) containing a numeric value for each of P values for
5 one or more characteristics of each of one or more a particular executable application program
6 components component to be potentially deployed at the edge, where $P > 1$, each of the
7 characteristics pertaining to executable code of the application program component and each of
8 the numeric characteristic values specifying whether this characteristic is important for this
9 application program component;

10 retrieving an E-element vector V(E) containing a numeric value for each of E values for
11 one or more characteristics of an operating environment in which the deployment at the edge is to
12 potentially occur, where $E > 1$, each of the characteristics pertaining to execution of code in the
13 operating environment and each of the numeric characteristic values specifying whether this
14 characteristic is applicable for the operating environment;

15 retrieving a $P \times E$ -dimension policy matrix M(PE) containing numeric values which
16 expresses express how dependent each of the characteristics of the application program
17 components [[are]] is on each of the characteristics of the operating environment; and

18 using matrix multiplication to programmatically combining combine the vector V(P), the
19 vector V(E), and the policy matrix M(PE) values of the characteristics of a particular one of the
20 application program components, the policy, and the values of the characteristics of the operating
21 environment to yield a result which determines whether the particular application program

22 component is suited for deployment at the edge of the computing network.

1 Claim 2 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of
2 comparing the result to a threshold to determine whether the particular application program
3 component is suited for deployment at the edge.

1 Claim 3 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the characteristics of
2 the one or more application program components and the vector of numeric values therefor are
3 supplied by developers of the components.

1 Claim 4 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the characteristics of
2 the operating environment and the vector of numeric values therefor are supplied by an
3 administrator of the environment.

1 Claim 5 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the policy matrix and
2 the numeric values contained therein are ~~[[is]]~~ supplied by a deployer.

Claim 6 (canceled)

1 Claim 7 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the values ~~[[of]]~~ in the
2 ~~characteristics of the one or more application program components~~ P-element vector, ~~the values~~
3 ~~[[of]]~~ in the policy matrix, and ~~the values of the characteristics of the operating environment~~ in

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4 the E-element vector range between zero and one.

1 Claim 8 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the step of using
2 matrix multiplication further comprises changing the matrix multiplication upon encountering
3 particular predetermined programmatically combining uses modifications to techniques of matrix
4 multiplication, wherein particular intermediate results signal changes to the matrix multiplication
5 process to substitute a particular number in place of a number generated if performing the matrix
6 multiplication.

1 Claim 9 (currently amended): A system for programmatically determining whether application
2 program components are suited for deployment at an edge of a computing network, comprising:
3 means for retrieving a P-element vector V(P) containing a numeric value for each of P
4 values for one or more characteristics of each of one or more a particular executable application
5 program components component to be potentially deployed at the edge, where $P > 1$, each of the
6 characteristics pertaining to executable code of the application program component and each of
7 the numeric characteristic values specifying whether this characteristic is important for this
8 application program component;
9 means for retrieving an E-element vector V(E) containing a numeric value for each of E
10 values for one or more characteristics of an operating environment in which the deployment at
11 the edge is to potentially occur, where $E > 1$, each of the characteristics pertaining to execution of
12 code in the operating environment and each of the numeric characteristic values specifying
13 whether this characteristic is applicable for the operating environment;

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means for retrieving a P x E-dimension policy matrix M(PE) containing numeric values
~~which-expresses express~~ how dependent each of the characteristics of the application program
components ~~[[are]]~~ is on each of the characteristics of the operating environment;

means for using matrix multiplication to programmatically-combining combine the vector
V(P), the vector V(E), and the policy matrix M(PE) values of the characteristics of a particular
one of the application program components, the policy, and the values of the characteristics of
the operating environment to yield a result; and

means for comparing the result to a threshold to determine whether the particular
application program component is suited for deployment at the edge of the computing network.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A computer program product for programmatically determining
whether application program components are suited for deployment at an edge of a computing
network, the computer program product embodied on one or more computer-readable media and
comprising:

computer-readable program code ~~[[means]]~~ for retrieving a P-element vector V(P)
containing a numeric value for each of P values for one or more characteristics of one or more a
particular executable application program components component to be potentially deployed at
the edge, where $P > 1$, each of the characteristics pertaining to executable code of the application
program component and each of the numeric characteristic values specifying whether this
characteristic is important for this application program component;

computer-readable program code ~~[[means]]~~ for retrieving an E-element vector V(E)
containing a numeric value for each of E values for one or more characteristics of an operating

environment in which the deployment at the edge is to potentially occur, where $E > 1$, each of the characteristics pertaining to execution of code in the operating environment and each of the numeric characteristic values specifying whether this characteristic is applicable for the operating environment;

computer-readable program code ~~[[means]]~~ for retrieving a $P \times E$ -dimension policy matrix $M(PE)$ containing numeric values which expresses ~~express~~ how dependent each of the characteristics of the application program components ~~[[are]]~~ is on each of the characteristics of the operating environment;

computer-readable program code ~~[[means]]~~ for using matrix multiplication to programmatically combining ~~combine~~ the vector $V(P)$, the vector $V(E)$, and the policy matrix $M(PE)$ values of the characteristics of a particular one of the application program components; ~~the policy, and the values of the characteristics of the operating environment to yield a result; and~~

computer-readable program code ~~[[means]]~~ for comparing the result to a threshold to determine whether the particular application program component is suited for deployment at the edge of the computing network.

Claims 11 - 12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (currently amended): The method according to Claim ~~[[13]]~~ 1, wherein the numeric values in the policy matrix provide ~~cells are used; during the programmatically combining step;~~ as weighting factors for yielding the result.

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1 Claim 14 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein one of the
2 characteristics of the particular application program ~~components~~ component is whether the
3 particular application program ~~components need~~ component needs a secure operating
4 environment and one of the characteristics of the operating environment is whether the operating
5 environment is secure.

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